



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## May 2010 Minutes

### VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP

### SUSTAINABLE ARLINGTON

**MAY 19, 2010 MEETING Town Hall Annex, First Floor**

**In attendance:**~ Dan Carroll, Shelly Dein, Courtney Hower,~ Elizabeth Karpati, Ryan Katofsky, David Landskov, Gail McCormick, Charlotte Milan, Brucie Moulton, Scott Samenfeld, Colleen Spindler.

**Facilitator:**~ Charlotte Milan

**Minutes:** Elizabeth Karpati

**Next meetings:** Thurs. June 17, Tues. July 20, Wed. Aug. 18, Thurs. Sept. 23, Wed. Oct. 20, Thurs. Nov. 18, Wed. Dec. 15. 7:30 p.m. Town Hall Annex, First Floor.

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~~~~~ **Green Communities Act:**~ Shelly reported that Town Meeting passed all warrant articles needed to make Arlington qualify for GCA status.~ All were supported, and some proposed, by SA.~ One requires the Town to track energy use for the last 3 years and pledge to reduce it by 20%; SA members could help with the tracking.~ The Town may apply for a grant for LED street lights, which are expensive to install but cheap to run (very energy efficient).

~~~~~ **Composting:**~ Gail reported that DPW plans to apply to DEP for a grant for curbside bins for compost pickup, and wants letters of support.~ The Chamber of Commerce plans to write one on behalf of businesses.~ Letters need to be submitted electronically.~

~~~~~ **Bus shelters:**~ The Selectmen have approved.~ Clarissa Rowe and Laura Weiner are working on identifying appropriate sites.~ A public hearing will be held.

~~~~~ **Outreach:**~ Brucie attended the Maynard-Stow Energy Solutions Fair and reported that it was very well organized.~ We should keep in touch with like-minded groups from other towns and find opportunities to collaborate.

~~~~~ Several **coming events** were announced:

~~~~~ MCAN board meeting May 25:~ Charlotte and David are planning to go.

~~~~~ Robbins Library will hold a Strawberry Festival on June 12.~ SA could have a table.

~~~~~ Benefit concert in Boston for [350.org](http://350.org), evening of June 12.

~~~~~ Gail and David will speak t Calvary Church on Sunday, June 13.

~~~~~ [350.org](http://350.org) plans to organize many simultaneous energy-saving events on 10/10/10.~ Suggestions for what SA could do:~ Participate in a couple of A-HEET "barn raisings."~ Offer to check tire pressures at gas stations.

~~~~~ **Miscellaneous:**

~~~~~ There is a state law against spraying **pesticides** where schoolchildren will be, but it does not apply to Town fields.~ Scott noted that the Town plants fast-growing grass; using a slower-growing variety would require less frequent mowing and probably less watering, but would it make a suitable surface for playing fields?~ Gail will check with DPW.

~~~~~ The **Energy Working Group** is presently inactive but the Town Manager has indicated that he wants to talk to Ryan and Shelly about it.

~~~~~ Plans for the next **Energy Solutions Fair** should be on the June agenda. It should be held in Town Hall since the Robbins community room was too small. ~The dates of Oct. 24 or Nov. 7 were suggested but the latter may conflict with the annual MCAN conference. ~We need to discuss just what we want the fair to accomplish, and we need a committee and someone to lead it.